IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information, with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the means for selecting,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm, and

image data having a large value of [["]] a ratio of an amount of present code[[" / "]] to an amount of lossless code[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the amount of present code and the amount of the lossless code are amounts to which added visual weight is given for every sub-band.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information, with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the means for selecting,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm in conformity to a bitplane coding scheme, and

image data having a large value of [["]] a ratio of an amount of present code [[/]] to a total number of non-zero bitplanes[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information, with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the means for selecting,

wherein the image data are compressed by a bitplane coding, and

image data having a small value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated

subbitplanes[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction

remaining force.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated

subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the quantization step sizes.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated

subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the subband gains.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated

subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the inverse component transform gains.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated

subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the human visual character.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining

force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction

remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information,

with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected

by the means for selecting,

wherein image data having a small value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] are

determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim

10,

wherein the image data are compressed by a bitplane coding, and the value of

[["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the truncated bitplanes or

truncated subbitplanes and quantization step sizes.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim

10,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the

subband gains.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim

10,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the

inverse component transform gains.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim 10,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the human visual character.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information, with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the means for selecting,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm in conformity to a bitplane coding scheme, and

image data having a small total number of non-zero bitplanes are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claims 16-17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction

remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information,

with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected

by the means for selecting,

wherein image data having a small number of times of using an application of the data

amount reduction process are determined as image data having the large data amount

reduction remaining force.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining

force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction

remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information,

with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected

by the means for selecting,

wherein it is determined that the data amount reduction remaining force of image data

of a motion picture is greater than the data amount reduction remaining force of image data of

a still picture.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim

1,

wherein in image data of motion pictures, image data of a motion picture having a larger average value or maximum value of the [["an]] ratio of the amount of present code[[" / "an]] to the amount of lossless code[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information, with a priority; and

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the means for selecting,

wherein it is determined that the data amount reduction remaining force of the image data having a designation of the data amount reduction process is greater than the data amount reduction remaining force of the image data not having the designation of the data amount reduction process.

Claims 22-23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Original): The image recording apparatus, as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

picture means for photographing a subject to be photographed and inputting the image data; and

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image compression means for compressing the image data input by the picture means,

wherein the image data compressed by the image compression means are recorded in the recording medium.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): An image recording apparatus, comprising:

means for recording image data in a recording medium;

means for obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

means for selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the means for obtaining information, with a priority;

means for performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the means for selecting;

picture means for photographing a subject to be photographed and inputting the image data;

image compression means for compressing the image data input by the picture means;

means for detecting a lack of unused capacity of the recording medium; and

means for controlling the data amount reduction process for the recorded image data in a case where the lack of unused capacity is detected by the means for detecting,

wherein the image data compressed by the image compression means are recorded in the recording medium.

Claim 26 (Original): The image recording apparatus as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

means for controlling the rising of a compression ratio of the image compression

means when the lack of unused capacity of the recording medium is detected during a period

in which the image data of a motion picture is input by the picture means.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): An image data selection method for selecting image

data on which a data amount reduction process is performed from image data recorded in a

recording medium, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of

image data; and

b) selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining

force, based on the information obtained in the step a), by a criterion, with a priority,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm and

recorded in the recording medium, and

image data having a large value of [["]] a ratio of an amount of present code[[" / "]] to

an amount of lossless code[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount

reduction remaining force.

Claim 28 (Cancelled).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The image data selection method as claimed in

claim 27,

wherein the amount of present code and the amount of the lossless code are amounts

to which added visual weight is given for every sub-band.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): An image data selection method for selecting image data on which a data amount reduction process is performed from image data recorded in a recording medium, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data; and

b) selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force, based on the information obtained in the step a), by a criterion, with a priority,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm in conformity to a bitplane coding scheme and recorded in the recording medium, and

image data having a large value of [[""]] a ratio of an amount of present code [[/]] to a total number of non-zero bitplanes[[""]] are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): An image data selection method for selecting image data on which a data amount reduction process is performed from image data recorded in a recording medium, comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data; and

b) selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force, based on the information obtained in the step a), by a criterion, with a priority,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm in conformity to a bitplane coding scheme and recorded in the recording medium, and

image data having a small total number of non-zero bitplanes are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 32 (Original): The image data selection method as claimed in claim 27,

wherein a criterion for determining the data amount reduction remaining force can be

selected from a plurality of the criteria.

Claim 33 (Cancelled)

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium encoded with

computer executable instructions that cause a computer to implement a method of selecting

image data to which a data amount reduction process is performed from image data recorded

in the computer readable medium, the method comprising:

a) obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of

image data; and

b) selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining

force, based on the information obtained in the step a), by a criterion, with a priority, wherein

the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm, and

image data having a large value of [["]] a ratio of an amount of present code[[" / "]] to

an amount of lossless code[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount

reduction force.

Claims 35-68 (Cancelled).

Claim 69 (Currently Amended): An image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of

image data recorded in the recording medium;

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selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining

force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the

selecting step,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm, and

image data having a large value of [["]] a ratio of an amount of present code[[" / "]] to

an amount of lossless code[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount

reduction remaining force.

Claim 70 (Previously Presented): The image recording method, as claimed in claim

69,

wherein the amount of present code and the amount of the lossless code are amounts

to which added visual weight is given for every sub-band.

Claim 71 (Currently Amended): An image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of

image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining

force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the

selecting step,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm in

conformity to a bitplane coding scheme, and

image data having a large value of [["]] a ratio of an amount of present code [[/]] to a

total number of non-zero bitplanes[["]] are determined as image data having the large data

amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 72 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of

image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining

force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the

selecting step,

wherein the image data are compressed by a bitplane coding, and image data having a

small value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated subbitplanes[["]] are

determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 73 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim

72,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated

subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the quantization step sizes.

Claim 74 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim

72,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated

subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the subband gains.

Claim 75 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim 72,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the inverse component transform gains.

Claim 76 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim 72,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of truncated bitplanes or sum of truncated subbitplanes[["]] is determined considering the human visual character.

Claim 77 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the selecting step,

wherein image data having a small value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 78 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim 77,

wherein the image data are compressed by a bitplane coding, and the value of

[["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the truncated bitplanes or

truncated subbitplanes and quantization step sizes.

Claim 79 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim

77,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the

subband gains.

Claim 80 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim

77,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the

inverse component transform gains.

Claim 81 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim

77,

wherein the value of [["]]sum of quantization errors[["]] is determined considering the

human visual character.

Claim 82 (Previously Presented): The image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of

image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining

force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the selecting step,

wherein the image data are compressed by an image compression algorithm in conformity to a bitplane coding scheme, and

image data having a small total number of non-zero bitplanes are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 83 (Previously Presented): The image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the selecting step,

wherein image data having a small number of times of using an application of the data amount reduction process are determined as image data having the large data amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 84 (Previously Presented): The image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the

selecting step,

wherein it is determined that the data amount reduction remaining force of image data

of a motion picture is greater than the data amount reduction remaining force of image data of

a still picture.

Claim 85 (Currently Amended): The image recording method, as claimed in claim

69,

wherein in image data of motion pictures, image data of a motion picture having a

larger average value or maximum value of the [["an]] ratio of the amount of present code[[" /

"an]] to the amount of lossless code[[")]] are determined as image data having the large data

amount reduction remaining force.

Claim 86 (Previously Presented): The image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of

image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining

force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the

selecting step,

wherein it is determined that the data amount reduction remaining force of the image

data having a designation of the data amount reduction process is greater than the data

amount reduction remaining force of the image data not having the designation of the data

amount reduction process.

Claim 87 (Previously Presented): The image recording method, as claimed in claim 69, further comprising:

photographing a subject to be photographed and inputting the image data; and

compressing the image data input by the photographing step,

wherein the image data compressed by the compressing step are recorded in the recording medium.

Claim 88 (Previously Presented): The image recording method, comprising:

recording image data in a recording medium;

obtaining information for determining a data amount reduction remaining force of image data recorded in the recording medium;

selecting image data determined to have a large data amount reduction remaining force based on the information obtained by the obtaining step, with a priority; and

performing a data amount reduction process against the image data selected by the selecting step;

photographing a subject to be photographed and inputting the image data;

compressing the image data input by the photographing step;

detecting a lack of unused capacity of the recording medium; and

controlling the data amount reduction process for the recorded image data in a case where the lack of unused capacity is detected by the detecting step,

wherein the image data compressed by the compressing step are recorded in the recording medium.

Claim 89 (Previously Presented): The image recording method as claimed in claim

88, further comprising:

controlling the rising of a compression ratio of the compressing step when the lack of

unused capacity of the recording medium is detected during a period in which the image data

of a motion picture is input by the photographing step.